

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (SSA)

I. Statement of Regulatory Priorities

We administer the Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance programs under title II of the Social Security Act (Act), the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program under title XVI of the Act, and the Special Veterans Benefits program under title VIII of the Act. As directed by Congress, we also assist in administering portions of the Medicare program under title XVIII of the Act. Our regulations codify the requirements for eligibility and entitlement to benefits and our procedures for administering these programs. Generally, our regulations do not impose burdens on the private sector or on State or local governments, except for the States' Disability Determination Services and representatives of claimants. However, our regulations can impose burdens on the private sector in the course of evaluating a claimant's initial or continued eligibility. We fully fund the Disability Determination Services in advance or via reimbursement for necessary costs in making disability determinations.

The entries in our regulatory plan represent issues of major importance to the Agency. Through our regulatory plan, we intend to:

- A. Simplify a specific policy within the SSI program by no longer considering food expenses as a source of In-Kind Support and Maintenance (RIN 0960-AI60);
- B. Revise our regulations to confirm that we will allow a \$20 tolerance that prevents us from assessing In-Kind Support and Maintenance if an SSI claimant is close to meeting his or her fair share of expenses (RIN 0960-AI68); and
- C. Simplify policies and business processes while assisting vulnerable populations who may need assistance providing their intent to file and recording their protective filing. We would also allow third parties who are assisting the potential claimants to submit a written statement regardless of whether the written inquiry is signed, which will protect claimants who are unable to provide the information by themselves (RIN 0960-AI69).

II. Regulations in the Proposed Rule Stage

Two of our regulations target changes to the In-Kind Support and Maintenance policy in our SSI program. They would simplify a specific policy within the SSI program by no longer considering food expenses as a source of ISM (RIN 0960-AI60) and would revise our regulations to confirm that we will allow a \$20 tolerance that prevents us from assessing In-Kind Support and Maintenance if an SSI claimant is close to meeting his or her fair share of expenses (RIN 0960-AI68).

In addition, our proposed regulations would simplify policies and business processes while assisting vulnerable populations who may need assistance providing their intent to file and recording their protective filing. The proposed regulation would allow third parties who are assisting the potential claimants to submit a written statement regardless of whether the written inquiry is signed, which will protect claimants who are unable to provide the information by themselves (RIN 0960-AI69).

III. Regulations in the Final Rule Stage

We are not including any of our regulations in the final rule stage in this statement of regulatory priorities.

Retrospective Review of Existing Regulations

Pursuant to section 6 of Executive Order 13563, "Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review" (January 18, 2011), SSA regularly engages in retrospective review and analysis for multiple existing regulatory initiatives. These initiatives may be proposed or completed actions, and they do not necessarily appear in The Regulatory Plan. You can find more information on these completed rulemakings in past publications of the Unified Agenda at www.reginfo.gov in the "Completed Actions" section for the Social Security Administration.